

SEIZING ALL MEANS OF PRODUCTION

THE ANARCHIST polity, must, according to the literature of the Russian Reds, proceed at the first favorable opportunity to seize all means of production and all articles of consumption, which action being accomplished, everything is expected to proceed with merry harmony.

But everything wouldn't go on in that way. Russia herself has provided a large practical experience. The Reds had to set up a government in place of the one they overthrew. Because the new government was more threatened than the old, it had to be more merciless than the old, and it restrained with a merciless hand, obeying the law of governments, all opposition which it could reach.

It is possible upon occasions to demolish governments and prisons, armies and many other things. But the minute responsible leaders obtain control it is necessary to build governments and prisons over again. The means of production may be seized, and all articles of consumption may be taken over.

But unless there is order so that work can go on, the means of production avail little, and the articles of consumption are soon used up.

The best way is the American way, which makes social progress by agreement, and proceeds from the good thing to the better by easy stages of democratic understanding.

THE GUEST IN THE HOUSEHOLD

THE ARREST of 350 agitators, nearly all foreign born and not citizens of the United States, is an act which expresses the purpose of the government not to tolerate interference in its affairs by aliens who advocate changing American institutions by violence.

To be sure the right to agitate for a revolution by constitutional means is inherent in the citizens of the United States. In fact the citizens of the United States have the right to change their form of government as they may see fit. It was once supposed that this right extended even to the use of violence. The Civil War operated as a limitation on the right to make revolution by force. The revolution of force must be successful, otherwise it will be a mere act of treason and rebellion.

So that in practice citizens of the United States have no right to make revolution by force, but only by education and the ballot, and by the use of constitutional means.

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There is one privilege which the guest in the household does not enjoy, to which no alien person can set up a shadow of moral claim.

No guest of the nation has the right, as an individual, or the privilege by association with others, to advocate any change whatever in the laws, the constitution, the system of government, or the system of property in this country.

The privilege of deciding how the national household shall be managed is the privilege of citizenship alone. The voice of the guest and the stranger must be silent. The government of the United States is not the task of the aliens, but the task of the citizens.

No visitor in a church not his own expects to take communion with those who are of the faith.

No mere visitor in the lodge room expects to vote for the officers of the lodge. No mere guests in the home, expect to direct its internal arrangements. On the rare occasions when something of that kind happens, the star boarder, as the description goes, is likely to find himself with a broken head.

At no time has an alien person the right to interfere in the government of America, to change the way in which government is managed here. In these times the alien has a greater duty than usual to mind his own business.

Many of the radicals who were taken in the raid of last night are Russians. They believe in the government of Lenin.

The Times is not making a criticism of the government of Lenin. If Russians want that government, that is their business and not the business of Americans.

If it is said that American soldiers are in Russia, as a part of the consequence of the war, and that Americans have made the government of Russia their business, and that America is waging a species of war on Russia, then America will sternly suppress any species of war which Russia attempts to take on this country. Of all aliens in this country Russian aliens will be the least permitted to interfere with the government and management of the United States.

When Lenin offered certain terms of peace to the United States he stipulated that he would not, after peace is accomplished, finance proletarian agitation here.

This is necessarily an admission that Lenin is subsidizing proletarian agitation; he is making a species of war here, which cannot and will not be tolerated.

It is not necessary that Uncle Sam should wait until a Russian agitator proposes an act of violence, before deporting him. By simple statute all Russian aliens might be subjected to sentence of deportation who engage in any movement of any kind to alter or change, the government of this country.

Such a statute would be in the highest degree just and moral. The alien is a guest. His is not the right to denounce the American constitution, or the American system.

The right to reform America, to change America, to improve the constitution, to make the institution of property over into something more satisfactory is the privilege of the citizen alone.

The alien has no such right; by the usages and customs of civilization, cannot have any such right; and when he attempts the exercise of such a function he outrages the laws of hospitality and subjects himself to the penalty of being regarded as not a proper person to continue as the guest of the household.

It will be seen that the rule which says that aliens may not attempt to change the government of the country, does not touch his right to do nearly everything that the citizen may legally do. The strike, for instance, being the lawful prerogative of the citizen is equally the privilege of the guest.

But the guest may not advocate a Soviet government, nor a Socialist Commonwealth, nor laws to change the distribution of property, nor anything of this nature.

America welcomes the alien, seeks him for a citizen, but

will not tolerate his interference in affairs of state until he becomes a citizen.

THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE VICE PRESIDENT of the United States says that he is without power, authority or influence, the reference being to his office. He is mistaken, or at least he speaks in loose terms. He has the succession. He is the American crown prince. This is potential power. He presides over the Senate, and breaks ties. This is actual power, the exercise of which is often of the highest consequence. He holds a lofty place, and stands upon a pedestal so that he is easily seen. His job carries his speech to distant places, and he can obtain all the influence to which he is entitled, according to the wisdom and the justice of what he says and does. The Vice President is not the President, any more than the crown prince is the king, but he may be the President, and hence holds a dignified and important part under the American system.

THE WILL OF MR. SHONTS

THEODORE P. SHONTS, a man sometime held up as an example for the emulation of the young, being dead, leaves a will, in which the bulk of his considerable fortune is diverted from his family and given to a female friend, who resided in the same apartments in which he lived, apart from his wife. It is a maxim that the living shall speak kindly of the dead. This is hard to do, when the living makes a will which speaks with such unkindness of him, and with certainty of many other rotten spots in the social fabric.

END OF A COSTLY STRIKE

AFTER BEING out four weeks and one day the longshoremen of New York city returned to work at the former rate of pay, with an understanding that Mayor Hylan will get a rehearing of their case before the National Adjustment Commission, in case the price of living does not immediately go down. The strike has cost something like \$40,000,000 and great inconvenience. It was an unauthorized strike, made against agreements, and without the consent of the International organization.

The lesson of this strike is the lesson that all other strikes bring, in these days. Society needs a mechanism for dealing with them by process of law. There should be compulsory hearing, settlements for a term, and the violation of a settlement should be unlawful.

In this way labor could keep its wages abreast of the cost of living, without paying the enormous cost of weeks of idleness. It would not be impossible to fix wage scales that would automatically follow the cost of living, measured in certain common commodities.

Any method of settlement would be better than the anarchy which now exists, which is wasteful beyond reason.

GERMANS KNEW THE END

THE MEMOIRS of Tirpitz and Ludendorff, show that the more intelligent and best informed of the Germans knew from early in 1914 that defeat was assured in the future. The only hope was for a peace, not too long delayed and not too drastic.

The methods of fighting which came into use in the German armies, which are suggested by the intensity of gun fire afterward had to be abandoned. The deep depot, of which so much was written, proved a man trap. Lines of trenches had to be made over, to avoid providing the enemy with an easy mark to shoot at. Ludendorff, in paragraphs more verbose than necessary, describes the wasting of his forces as the Allies increased their man power and their artillery.

We find him desperately trying to teach his soldiers the lost art of shooting. Before the end of the war the German veterans had forgotten how to keep the enemy at a distance with their rifles.

It took the Americans to show the importance of shooting. The Americans taught the other armies how to take machine gun nests with infantry, a task to which the rifle, wielded by marksmen, was the key.

HIGH COST OF MILK

ANOTHER MILK rise in New York has started another series of investigations. The price is to increase a cent and a half a quart on the cheaper grades and proportionately on the best grades.

Milk is wastefully distributed. There can be no reform in the price until distribution is from door to door, as mail is distributed. Wasteful distribution is one of the fertile sources of high cost living.

THE STRIKE THAT FAILED

IT IS QUITE useless to denounce the Longshoremen who struck for a month, tying up millions of tons of commodities much needed over seas.

Society has abundant experience that strikes do occur and abundant reason to suppose that they will continue to occur, and yet does nothing to bring them within the operation of the social forces which might prevent or adjust them.

The whole is greater than the part. The law is over all. Law may be made to cover every case. The United States needs statutes by which labor disputes may be forestalled, or quickly settled. Such a statute will operate by compulsion, like any other statute. It ought to apply to the whole of any industry, and if not to the whole, to as large a part as possible of the whole. The settlement once made should be for a term, a year, perhaps, or more, and wage scales might be arranged which would fluctuate with the cost of the necessities of life.

Two things stand in the way. Employers are afraid to yield themselves to the law. Workers are afraid to yield themselves to the law. This is nothing strange, men have always been afraid to yield themselves to the law. The old, savage instinct to do exactly as one pleases, without restraint, is deep seated in human nature.

But employers and workers must ultimately realize that anything is better than the continued waste and anarchy of arbitrary labor disputes, ordered by anybody at any time, for any purpose.

Nobody could lose if the matter were governed by law. Everybody would gain. The employers would have the advantage of a stable industry, with ordered steady progress in the direction of a larger participation of workers in the profits of industry.

The workers would have the advantage of increasing wages without the loss and waste of the strike, and if the laws

were unfair, or the administration of the laws unjust, they would have the remedy of the ballot box, which is the source of all law borne remedy in a democracy.

THE REFERENDUM

FEW THINGS in American public life are more pathetic than the eagerness with which the liquor traffic clings to the referendum as a means of relief from the dry amendment.

The Times urged the referendum as a policy, did it during many years, when western states were adopting this method of making laws, and found ever a cold mind where the liquor traffic was concerned.

This group was far more interested in local legislation, in keeping right with county commissioners and parochial minor officers than it was with the larger aspects of its interest.

Now comes Ohio, the matter not decided, but providing a ray of hope, and all through the referendum.

Comes Theodore A. Bell, attorney for the Grape Growers Protective Association of California, saying that the result in Ohio will have a tremendous psychological effect.

There are it seems ten states in which the liquor question is to come to a referendum vote, with a possibility that Nevada may come in as the eleventh. The nine states are Colorado, California, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Michigan. Maine will vote on the amendment in 1920.

Of these states every one is dry, by state vote, excepting California and Missouri.

There are 22 states with the initiative and referendum, states in which the people can make their own laws at the ballot box.

All but three of these states are dry, to wit, Massachusetts, Missouri and Maryland.

Thus are the friends of aridity better equipped than the proponents of wetness.

Suppose that the wets, beginning years ago, had believed as they believe now that the rank and file of the voters are their protection, and had favored just laws by which the people might express themselves at the ballot box. Would they now be at the mercy of their enemies, lost in a great desert, where the only drink is water?

The moral of this little homily is, that fellow who refuses to see beyond his own narrow occupation is likely to suffer some day for his lack of vision.

The referendum is a good law. It is fair for all. It lets the people say what they want and what they do not want.

DEPORTING THE REDS

DUDLEY FIELD MALONE, most eloquent of orators, speaks with some vexation of the descent of the government upon the meetings of Russian aliens who have been agitating for Soviet government in the United States.

By what right, under what pretense of equity or morality does a foreigner agitate in the United States to change the institutions to which the country adheres?

Is it not a maxim of civilization that the stranger within the gates shall carry himself like a guest, and not like the lord of the household?

Granting to Americans, to those who are citizens of the country, the greatest freedom of action which goes with free speech and the right of assemblage, what right has a group of aliens, just from Russia, to attempt to impose upon the American people the system of Lenin and Trotsky.

If the American people want Soviets they have the power to get them, as simply as they proceed to get votes for women or to enforce prohibition. It is as easy to amend the constitution of the United States to create a Soviet government, as it was easy to amend it to abolish chattel slavery, and alcohol, provided of course, that the American people want a Soviet government.

The rights of American citizens are strictly limited. The institutions carefully see to it that some Americans do not insert themselves into the political affairs of other Americans without necessary preparation.

A man may be a citizen and vote in New York, but he cannot vote in Connecticut until he has lived in the State for a year. He cannot vote in Bridgeport unless he has lived in Bridgeport six months, and he is presumed not to vote even in the ward in which he does not live, though that ward is in the same city.

These simple rules are a part and a necessary part of Democracy. Democracy does not mean every man minding everybody's affairs. It means every man minding those affairs which are properly his.

The alien who attempts to meddle with the government of the United States, is a person who does not know the rights of a guest. He is a guest who must be thrust from the household. He does not belong.

The affairs of America are for Americans to settle, in accordance with the ideas which Americans have of their own interests.

It is true as Mr. Malone says that the United States is imposing an armed force and a blockade upon Russia, a policy of which The Times much doubts the wisdom. But this circumstance does not increase privileges of Russian aliens in this country.

If it is true that the United States is waging a species of war upon Russia, it becomes true that Russian aliens are in a sense enemy aliens, though in a very limited sense, for it is a very limited sort of war that is going on between the United States and the government of Lenin.

But the degree in which a Russian alien is an enemy alien, however slight, makes an additional reason why he will not be permitted to meddle with the government of the United States.

It is in the code of all nations that the friend has more privileges than the enemy, and it follows that those who are partly hostile will have less consideration than those who are wholly friendly. These precepts are as old as civilization.

Everybody understands them. They are as valid today as they were in the beginning, and they will be as valid a thousand years hence as they are now.

Gen. Yudenitch Counter Attacks Against Gatchina

Helsingfors, Monday, Nov. 10 — General Yudenitch is counter attacking with an offensive against Gatchina, according to a communique issued by the Northwest Russian army on Sunday. Attacks on the right and left banks of Yudenitch's army, the statement says, were represented

Gatchina was entered by the Bolshevik forces on Nov. 2. Advances received Nov. 6 by the Estonian press bureau in Helsingfors reported the complete cutting off of General Yudenitch's forces in the region of Gatchina and Luga by Bolshevik cavalry.

Rome, Nov. 11 — A twenty-four hour general strike has been proclaimed in Florence. Calling of the strike followed a clash between the police and Socialist demonstrators, during which five persons were

COPELAND ORDERS CUT IN MILK PRICES

Warns Distributors Public Will No Longer Tolerate Present High Cost

New York, Nov. 11.—Health Commissioner Copeland, Chairman of the Governor's Fair Milk Price Committee, which is investigating the causes for the increase of 1 1/2 and 2 cents a quart in the retail price of milk for this month, declared at a hearing before that body at the City Hall yesterday afternoon that some way must be found to reduce the price of milk to the consumer, and gave it as his opinion that the burden for working out this method lay with the distributors. If they desire to continue in business, he requested the representatives of the large distributing companies present to get together work out some practical plan looking to this end, and submit it to the committee at a subsequent meeting. They agreed to do this.

The public is not in a frame of mind, Dr. Copeland continued, to tolerate any longer the imposition of such high prices for milk, and unless something is done to bring them down the people will take the matter into their own hands. They will do nothing violent, he said further, but they will pursue some course that will insure for them cheaper milk. He pointed out that milk is laid down in New York city for about 9 1/2 cents a quart and is sold to the consumer for 18 cents a quart. Dr. Copeland told the distributors that he was merely pointing out to them the feeling of public sentiment as he was able to interpret it.

"Thousands of children in New York City, I know of my own knowledge," said Dr. Copeland, "are getting only one and a half cups of milk a day, and there are many who are not getting any at all, because of the high prices that are being charged."

When D. P. Fox, Vice President of Borden's Products Company, said he would not have hesitated to serve on a committee of distributors which Dr. Copeland had in mind, to work out some plan for lower priced milk, Dr. Copeland remarked that failure to do something to bring down the price of milk might result in his having more time on his hands than he knew what to do with. Later, when Dr. Copeland decided not to appoint a committee, but rely upon the distributors to voluntarily work out a plan and submit it to the Fair Price Committee, Mr. Fox said he would be glad to act with the other distributors.

SILVER DOLLAR IS WORTH MORE THAN \$1 NOW

Rise in Price Gives Coin Higher Value As Bullion Than Its Face Value

New York, Nov. 11.—For the first time in thirty-five years the metal in the American silver dollar is worth more than the face value of the coin.

Sales of the metal were made in the New York market yesterday at \$1.30 1/2 cents an ounce. The gold parity of the silver dollar is \$1.2923; that is, when silver metal sells at that price the silver in the dollar is worth a dollar.

With the silver selling around the high price established yesterday it will be profitable to melt down dollars and sell them as bullion. Bullion dealers estimated the melting cost at about half a cent an ounce. "Gouging" of dollars, as the bullion trade calls melting them down, is not likely to become much of a practice, however, because of the limited number of dollars in circulation. Upward of \$200,000,000 worth of silver dollars were melted down and sold as bullion under the provisions of the war-time Pittman act. Much of that silver went to India to pay for war purchases.

Silver, like most other commodities, has been steadily rising in price since the war began, and the movement has been accelerated since the signing of the armistice by reason of the heavy world demand for the metal for coinage. With the withdrawal of gold from circulation in various parts of the world as a result of the war, silver has come into greater use, particularly in Europe, where it has temporarily taken the place of gold as hard money.

Since last May, when the United States lifted the embargo upon exports of silver to the country, China has come into this market as a heavy purchaser, and recently sales for shipment to the Far East have been running at the rate of 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 ounces a month. In August exports to China reached the larger figure, and in September they exceeded 7,000,000 ounces. China is bidding against the world for silver at present and is willing to pay a higher price than England. That is the principal factor in the market at the moment, and the demand from that quarter is expected to continue heavy for some time.

AIN'T IT RICH?

This is a letter a film star recently received. "Some say you are 14, some 17 and others 20. If you are anything between 14 and 17 I'll wait for you and perhaps it will be better if we wait a year or two. I'll have more money then and you won't have to act." Now we ask you—ain't that nice?

COMPLETES PLAY

Owen Moore has completed "Piccadilly Jim," in which he made his debut as a Selznick star. Playing opposite Mr. Moore is Zena Keefe, the girl who is going to be starred by Myron Selznick next year.

A wrap of metallic brocade used by the same with fur trim, the fur being flying squirrel and silver fox as a trim.